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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
84114-2220

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News Release
January 15, 2008
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Utah Government and Firms Address Climate Change

Utah Joins Multi-State Effort to Track Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Salt Lake City – Governor Jon Huntsman is pleased to announce today that five Utah businesses and two government entities have joined the state to be among the first to sign up for The Climate Registry, a multi-state initiative that tracks greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Kennecott Land, Kennecott Utah Copper, SWCA, ETC Group, USANA, Salt Lake City Corporation, Salt Lake County, and the State of Utah's executive branch have become "Founding Reporters" for The Climate Registry (TCR), a non-profit organization established to measure and publicly report GHG emissions. TCR provides businesses an opportunity to get recognition for early reductions of greenhouse gases. It is a national registry and participation for Utah businesses and other entities is voluntary.

Here's how it works: As business and government seek recognition for pollution reductions, TCR facilitates economic development and business certainty by providing an efficient state-based, nationally-recognized registry. In many cases, reductions in GHG emissions are the result of improvements in energy efficiency and cost-saving operations.

"Utah is proud to be among the first reporters to the Climate Registry," Governor Huntsman said. "I applaud Utah businesses and local governments for voluntarily committing to measure and report their GHG emissions. This shows tremendous leadership in addressing the challenge of climate change."

The tracking and reporting of GHG emissions compliments the state's policy to improve energy efficiency, since those efficiency measures also result in reduced GHG emissions. Efficiency also benefits the bottom line through reduced energy costs. The Governor's Blue Ribbon Advisory Council listed participation in The Climate Registry as one of its high-priority recommendations.

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TCR was incorporated as a nonprofit organization in March 2007 in Washington, D.C. by 39 U.S. states, including Utah, five Canadian provinces, three Native American tribes, two Mexican states and the District of Columbia. It provides accurate accounting of GHG emissions and ensures consistency of measurement metrics across industry sectors and borders as well as providing certainty for businesses that make early reductions in GHG emissions. For more information, visit www.deq.utah.gov/Climate_Change.

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